



Christmas Crackers and Crop Circles

It was good to see members arriving for the Christmas Competition and Social albeit numbers were down and the event a little subdued compared to normal. Given the current covid climate this was only to be expected and in fact the competitions were well supported on the whole with the postponed summer classes included.

As usual, members busied themselves handing in entries and setting up the tables etc. before chatting over coffee.

Setting up complete, judging got underway with all members judging the three standard classes, appointed judges marking the open classes and partners choosing their favourites.

There was also a quiz to keep everyone occupied.



With judging complete it was time for a lunch of Burwash Beauties with extras provided by members, accompanied by wine, punch and soft drinks.

Brian Pope gave a short but interesting talk which was a follow up on his previous talks on Hastings. Then everyone enjoyed a fascinating talk on crop circles by Andy Thomas, a renowned speaker whose visit was postponed from 2019. The talk certainly gave us food for thought and perhaps further investigation. Our thanks to Brian and Andy.

Members then enjoyed desserts and a slice of cake celebrating the 30th anniversary of the club. Thank you to Maggie Wright's daughter Ali, who made the cake, to the Burwash Beauty cooks, to Anne Smith for making the punch and to all those who brought food.



To finish the day, the prizewinners were announced and presentations made. Congratulations to all winners and to everyone who made the effort to enter.

As there was not time to have our usual appraisal of entries and to discover who made what, Members are encouraged to bring their entries to the January critique for that purpose.

Results

| Class | Subject | First | Second | Third |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Novice | Set of eggcups | Ricky Thompson | Gareth Garner | Mike Moon |
| Intermediate | Vase embellished with texture | Mike Pollard | Anne Smith | |
| Advanced | Box within a box | Peter Castle | Maggie Wright | John Turner |
| Frank Elworthy Cup | Spindle turning | Sandra Day | Gareth Garner | Richard Hasleden |
| Founder's Cup | Innovative design and form | Maggie Wright | Sandra Day and Richard Hasleden | |
| Charles Newson Cup | Partners' choice | Pete Hawes | | |
| Member of the Year | | Sandra Day | | |
| Monthly Competition | | Mike Moon | | |



There was a good number of entries in all classes apart from the intermediate. The standard of work was high even in the novice class, with lots of inspiration and techniques on display. Hopefully entrants will bring their work to the critique to say a few words about the pieces.

Winners left to right, Maggie Wright, Pete Hawes, Peter Castle, Sandra Day, Mike Pollard and Ricky Thompson.

Winning entries



Sculptural piece by Maggie Wright.



Peter Castle's box showing inner and outer lids.



Mike Pollard's vase with textured embellishment



Ricky Thompson's eggcups.



Left, Monthly competition winner, Mike Moon's clock.



Spindle work by Sandra Day, winner of the Frank Elworthy Cup.



Pete Hawes nesting acorns, winner of the partners' choice cup

Peter Castle won the guess the weight of the Bramley apple log. Thank you to Jayne Brown who generously donated it as a prize.

After a successful day, thanks are due to Jo Castle and Lillian Rowson for setting up and scoring the competitions and to everyone else who contributed to the day.

Richard Hasleden Cup

The New Year brings a return to the Richard Hasleden monthly competition. Monthly entries are judged for turning skill, shape and finish with a handicap system in place. Total points accrued over the year will result in a winner at the 2022 Christmas social.

January Meeting

January 16th 10.00am-4.00pm

AGM followed by a Critique

Given that there were no meetings from March 2020 until August 2021, the reports for the AGM will be very short. This will allow more time for the critique.

To make good use of this time as well as bringing your competition entries and any other work, do you have a turned piece or project that you could describe for other members to enjoy and learn from? Maybe you encountered particular problems which you overcame or perhaps you need advice to improve or complete a project.

The aim of the critique is to help everyone to improve their turning in a positive way and to appreciate the different skills all members of the club possess and are happy to share. This is all part of the club philosophy.

Please remember to bring your own mugs.

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| Chairman | Maggie Wright |
| Vice Chairman and Competition Secretary | Peter Castle |
| Secretary | Anne Smith |
| Treasurer | John Turner |
| Events organiser | Greg Collett |
| Librarian | David Spice |
| Newsletter editor | Sandra Day |
| A-V co-ordinator | Brian Rowson |

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February Meeting

February 20th 10.00am-4.00pm.

Hands on led by Greg Collett.

Please bring your tools

More Competition Entries



Anne Smith's Intermediate second place piece.



Gareth Garner came second in the novice class.



Mike Moon's eggcups achieved third place in the novice class.

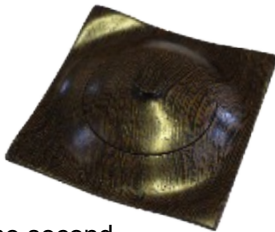
Gareth was also second in the Frank Elworthy class with his tricylinder.



Richard Hasleden's squid was placed third in the Frank Elworthy Cup.



Richard also tied second with his Founder's cup entry.



Maggie Wright came second with her little box.



A dragon box by Sandra Day tied second in the Founder's cup.



Did you realise Oxah was an anagram of hoax? John Turner's piece was not actually turned.



John did however, turn this entry for the advanced class and was placed third.